

The Evening World.

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SHOUTING THEM DOWN?

COMMISSIONER OF ACCOUNTS HIRSHFIELD was scheduled to begin yesterday an investigation of police interference with the birth control meeting at the Town Hall Nov. 13 last.

Witnesses, including women who had been arrested at the Town Hall meeting, appeared yesterday morning before Commissioner Hirschfeld ready for the inquiry. Mr. Hirschfeld began by demanding the minutes of another birth control meeting held at the Park Theatre a week after the meeting in question. When these minutes were not forthcoming the Commissioner stormed at the lawyer who represented the three women who had been arrested and then summarily adjourned the inquiry.

Is this Mr. Hirschfeld's idea of an investigation to get at the reason why the police interfered with the Town Hall meeting of Nov. 13—a perfectly specific and definite occurrence, to be considered without reference to any other occasion?

Or is it Mr. Hirschfeld's idea that the best way the Hyland Administration can deal with those who protest in the name of free speech is to try to frighten them into silence with loud talk?

POISONING THE SOURCE.

William H. Anderson, State Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League, is sure the towns and villages of this Commonwealth would enjoy the sport of searching motorists and other travellers for concealed liquor. He would have the Legislature pass a measure enabling all communities in the State to take a hand at Prohibition enforcement.

The towns and villages were formerly the unfailing springs of American liberty. Prohibition is now bent on teaching them tyranny.

WHAT SHOULD CERTAINLY FOLLOW.

ATTORNEY DE FORD'S criticism of the Transit Commission's powers may, or may not, induce the Legislature to accept his recommendations restricting the ultimate power of the commission to raise fares if necessary.

One thing should follow, and without fail.

Having accepted the De Ford report, the Mayor should immediately put to death the plan to appropriate \$100,000 for special counsel fees and expenses of an appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

The spectacular business of hiring Hiram Johnson and other expensive legal champions for a fight to the finish ought to be abandoned. Mr. Hearst's own personal attorney advises Mayor Hyland to drop the fight on the Transit Bill as a whole and to confine opposition to particular features.

The Mayor now has grounds for a graceful change of front. An effort at co-operation might even induce the Transit Commissioners to join the city in asking for the change in powers Mr. De Ford recommends.

"The United States should not play the role of Shylock in dealing with its allies," Senator McCumber protested when speaking on the War Loan Refunding Bill.

Only recently Senator McCumber favored using the interest (which couldn't be collected) to pay a soldier bonus.

What sort of a role would the Senator have the United States play in dealing with the veterans? That of Artful Dodger?

A WHALE OF A PLAN.

SAMUEL UNTERMYER'S plan for housing nearly a quarter of a million persons in one great operation fairly staggers the imagination.

Whether the details can be arranged, Mr. Untermyer himself does not know. The margin in construction cost must be narrow to satisfy his demands.

Men, money and materials are the essentials in home construction.

The offer by the men is unprecedented. One day's work free or a cut of a dollar a day in wages on this job is an earnest of good disposition for the contractors and material men to emulate.

Mr. Untermyer has been fighting material rings bent on boosting prices. If he can now organize a new ring bent on cutting prices to the limit, New York will sit up and rub its eyes.

The offer of the building fund is conditional on legislative approval. It is at Albany that the fight of the landlords and "leasers" will be made. We may be sure their propaganda organizations got busy yesterday morning as soon as they recovered from the first shock of the Untermyer bombshell.

Will public opinion countenance obstruction, however plausible it may be? We do not believe so.

TONIC AMERICA.

This lean somber type of thought is more common in the United States than in Europe, for the people not only feel in their veins the pulse of youthful strength, but remember the magnitude of the evils they have vanquished, and see that they have already achieved many things for which the Old World has longed in vain. And by so much as the people of the United States are more hopeful, by that much are they more healthy. They do not, like their forefathers, expect to attain their ideals either

easily or soon; but they say it with a note of confidence in the voice which rings in the ear of the European visitor and fills him with something of their own sanguine spirit. —Bryce's "American Commonwealth."

THE FARM BLOC.

WHEN the Farm Conference which met yesterday was first projected, President Harding was credited with the plan of using it to undermine the power of the Agricultural bloc.

Since then considerable water has gone over the dam. President Harding has "compromised" with the bloc on more than one important measure, giving the bloc all it wanted, if not all it asked.

Yesterday the President did more than compromise. He surrendered. He came close to an official recognition of a fact accomplished, a Congressional leadership transferred to the members of the bloc.

The time has come when the bloc is in commanding position. The conference will not dispossess it. Either the bloc and the backers of the bloc will dominate the conference, or the conference will not amount to enough to bother the members of the bloc.

If President Harding gets a workable programme from the conference, it is likely to bear the trade mark of the Farm Bureau movement and so of the bloc. The President has virtually accepted in advance.

If President Harding confirms this acceptance he can strengthen his titular leadership, but it will be leadership of a party radically different from the G. O. P. of the Old Guard. The President will have to dispose of Mark Hanna's mantle for good and all.

It has become the custom in some quarters to attack the Agricultural bloc. Choleric bankers and business men grow apoplectic over the "menace."

Anger doesn't help the situation. Straight thinking and independent thinking would. If the bloc comes to dominate one party, it can be driven out of the other. The bloc programme provides a definite line for party differentiation. The bloc could write a consistent party platform for one party, not for two. Those opposed to the bloc could take to the polls an intelligible programme of opposition.

The stronger the bloc grows, the better the prospect for regrouping voters in parties that stand for something more than thirst for office.

Whether the bloc is right or wrong, this new political development will be helpful if it ends in restoring to party organizations a salutary respect for principles on which men can unite and differ with other men of other principles.

Spokesmen for the Farm Bureau recognize the limitations of conditions. This will tend to make them moderate. It will be a check on those who hope for a wide programme of class legislation. In a recent exposition of the political development of the Farm Bureau movement O. M. Kile pointed out that organized farmers could hope to control the Senate. He recognized a different condition in the House, where delegations are more nearly in proportion to population.

The last census showed that the turn had come and that the majority in the United States is now urban. That, in the last analysis, provides a needed check on a bloc which might be tempted to exercise arrogant powers.

Labor's response to Samuel Untermyer's building programme is a tribute to his organizing ability. He carries a club in one hand and a sweetmeat in the other—and uses either at discretion.

ACHES AND PAINS

A Disjointed Column by John Keetz.

As the days grow longer
The cold grows stronger,
And the coat grows shorter,
Which it hadn't order!

Synthetic gold is said to be even more expensive than the natural article. What's the use!

Now comes Will Hays
To wash the faces
Of the movie plays!

The bankers say we should lend Europe money so she can buy things of us. Sounds good. We know a case where it would work well at home.

When Horace wrote
Of wine and song
He did not know
He was doing wrong!

What is wanted is more right-angled pie.

The cleaner the street cleaner
The cleaner the street—
Thus on our thoroughfares
Do extremes meet!

They are always breaking China.

Why should we tease
The Jappyknees?

Nothing like the inside of a jail tooken a profiteer.

Welcome Now!



From Evening World Readers

What kind of letter do you find most readable? Isn't it the one that gives the worth of a thousand words in a couple of hundred? There is fine mental exercise and a lot of satisfaction in trying to say much in few words. Take time to be brief.

"Unconscious."

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Recently it was my fate to travel on the west side subway. At 110th Street and Lenox Avenue (one of those old-fashioned island platforms which are found only on the old subway lines), a young girl (I believe she was a high school girl, as she was carrying her books) fell in between the car platform and the station platform. Had not some passengers pulled her out, the guard would have shut the doors and the train would have rolled on as merrily as ever, crushing the victim to death.

Neither the train nor the station men noticed anything, which was primarily due to the Interborough's carelessness to have only two ticket choppers on a station two blocks long (no platform men, mind you) and a guard on every second car. Had the passengers been too cowardly to pick the young girl from beneath the train, as they very often are, she would have been crushed between the train and platform.

Such is the Interborough's policy. Two few employees to look after the safety of the passengers and the gross lack of safety devices. I see no reason why the large space between the train and station platform (caused by the curvature of the platform) could not be remedied by a moving railing such as is now in use at the 14th Street station on the east side line. Probably carelessness, foolish thrift, or both. Then they install turnstiles to take away the few gate-men they now have on the stations.

Well, New Yorkers stand for everything. Philadelphia may be asleep, but New York is unconscious.

H. SWARTZ.

New York, Jan. 20, 1922.

"Discretion Is Anarchy."

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Mr. Untermyer is to be congratulated on his efforts to expose profiteering landlords. But when he says that courts are being "hoodwinked" by fake sales, I don't believe it. "Hoodwinked" is a new name for the exercise of court discretion in landlord and tenant cases.

Let Mr. Untermyer publish the names of the "hoodwinked" Justices, also the names of tenants that have been sued month after month for the same rent because they knew the landlords would have to pay lawyers' fees exceeding the amount sued for.

For two years I have been pounding the legislators, the Lockwood Committee and the newspapers that court discretion means less than 3 per cent net on decent landlords' actual cash outlays and 35 per cent on the net on profiteering landlords' fake equities. That's what is called justice.

For two years I have said that to

per cent. of rent suit cases can be eliminated by the simple method of writing into the law either of two basic methods for court adjudication. That a tenant cannot have "an unreasonable rent defense" where (1) the net income on value of property does not exceed 10 per cent. Mr. Untermyer says either 7 per cent. or 8 per cent. net. (2) Where the gross rental on value of property does not exceed a fixed varying percentage running from 15 per cent. to 21 per cent. on six specific classes of housing.

Make the basis for value the 1923 or 1921 assessed valuations and give the courts discretion on evidence submitted to add or deduct therefrom some maximum percentage, anywhere from 10 per cent. to 20 per cent.

The present court discretion is anarchy. Why can't the newspapers see the truth and help me to get square deal justice for both tenant and landlord?

It is a crying shame that the only organization which stood for rent laws can't get its views accepted as to the present outrageous meeting out of justice, for there is no justice to-day for the decent tenant and landlord, but only for the shyster.

STEWART BROWNE,
President United Real Estate Owners' Association.
New York, Jan. 21, 1922.

Move Forward There.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

I have never braved the jungle,
Where the wild beasts tear and roar;
I have never fought a lion,
Nor yet a savage boar.

I have never met a tiger
In a hand-to-hand conflict;
I have never, that I know of,
By a vicious mule been kicked.

I have never had a battle
With an angry grizzly bear;
I have never, at my vitals,
Felt a wild cat claw and tear.

I have never known the horrors
Of a python's dread embrace;
With no hoard of howling Redskins
Have I ever run a race.

I have never shot the rapids,
Braved Niagara's awful crash,
Fut I boarded, once, the subway,
In the hour known as "rush."

BERT ADAM SEEHOFF,
Bellerose, N. Y., Jan. 20, 1922.

All the Traffic Will Bear.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

"Ex-Landlord" tells us in a recent issue of The Evening World that to bear the stigma of being a landlord is worth some remuneration, especially as the class is always on the do-

UNCOMMON SENSE

By John Blake

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STICK THEM OUT.

Some of the resolutions you made a few weeks ago are becoming troublesome.

After all, you think, what was the sense in them?

There is but one life to live. Why deny yourself the things you enjoyed?

Why make the rest of the year arid and uncomfortable? You ran along the same old easy way in 1921; and nothing much happened. What, therefore, is the good of keeping all those resolutions?

The good of keeping the resolutions is the same good that comes of keeping any sort of promise.

Perhaps you do not notice any immediate benefit. But stick them out and the benefits will be apparent at the end of the year.

The resolutions were a promise to yourself that you were going to make certain sacrifices and put forth certain extra efforts.

The fact that you put them off to the end of the year shows how difficult it was to get yourself into a frame of mind where you could make them at all.

But make them you did. And if you ever expect to be any more than you are now, if you ever hope to gain real confidence in yourself, you will have to keep them.

Every broken resolution means a weakening of character. The strongest character will not endure many such weakenings without breaking altogether.

If you have kept your resolutions so far, continue to keep them through the term for which they were made.

If you do that the next step will be far easier to keep. And perhaps by and by you will have formed so many good habits that you will not have to make any resolutions at all.

In any event, don't weaken. Be able to look yourself in the eye before the mirror at the end of the year and say that you went clear through, at least for one year, with a contract, even though no penalty was attached to its violation.

Sometimes or other you must make a beginning if you want to move up. Resolutions made the first of the year were a beginning. Keep them and it will not be necessary to make the beginning all over again next year.

fensive against such "enemies" as tenants, reformers, philanthropists and newspapers.

Is "Ex-Landlord" jesting or deliberately falsifying facts?

The very fact that landlords receive such condemnation (criticism is not a mild term) is proof sufficient that there is something radically unjust in their methods.

Even conceding that taxes are doubled, plumbers' bills higher, and coal costs higher than in ante-bellum days, it is a fact that rents have increased not in proportion to economic laws but as much as the traffic will bear.

Personally, I think the rent laws, in spite of some good they have accomplished for the relief of tenants against the depredations of usurers and extortioners, commonly termed "landlords," are humbug, and here is my remedy.

Just as in the war emergency the Government had legislation passed delegating to it abnormal powers and

in some cases assumed powers which the emergency required, so in the present housing emergency, the Government should exercise its power and seize the properties, operating them at a reasonable profit. Private property is inviolate as long as its possession does not inconvenience the rights and liberties of others, but as the rights and liberties of the public are trampled underfoot by extortioners and usurers (commonly termed landlords) the Government should intervene with drastic action.

History proves that oppressors can't be curbed by courts, juries, District attorneys, indictments, &c. The power of the Government can clip their wings, however.

Usurers and extortioners in politics, especially the alien type, despite their naturalization papers—should have the full weight of the law on their necks. Legislation involves too many technicalities which often operate against justice and reason.

SIDNEY SAMPSON,
New York, Jan. 21, 1922.

Liberators

—OF—
Ireland

By Bartlett Draper

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VI.—PATRICK SANSFIELD.

Patrick Sansfield is a name to conjure with in the long history of the struggle of the Irish people to maintain their national entity. Some indication of his military genius is furnished by the fact that he died a Marshal of France.

In the seventeenth century the Catholic majority of the Irish people had thrown in their lot with King James in his futile struggle with William of Orange. William had won the battle of "Boyne water" on July 1, 1690, and was fast gaining the upper hand of the Jacobites.

Sansfield revealed his military talents by repulsing William's assault on the line of the River Shannon at Athlone. Then, dissenting from the decision of a council of war that Limerick was indefensible, he shut himself up in Limerick with 25,000 men.

Here he performed the remarkable exploit of seizing one of William's convoys from Dublin, destroying his siege guns and blowing up his powder. The dramatic event of the siege was an attempt by William to penetrate into Limerick with 500 grenadiers and 10,000 foot soldiers.

After entering the city and even taking the famous "Black Battery" in a bloody fight, the besiegers met with a rain of bullets and cannonballs that sent them reeling back through the breach, leaving 2,000 dead inside the walls.

Sansfield proved to William of Orange that despite shortages of supplies Limerick was not to be taken in a hurry. So he went back to England in disgust, leaving the conduct of the war in the hands of his Generals, including the foreigners Ginkel and Solmes.

In May, 1691, a French fleet arrived at Limerick with supplies for the Irish under the command of Gen. St. Ruth. The ally made the mistake of declining to avail himself of the experience of Patrick Sansfield.

St. Ruth's chief act of indiscretion was his neglect to guard adequately a ford by which 2,000 of Ginkel's men crossed under a withering fire from the fort, and the 500 survivors of the garrison of Athlone surrendered.

At Aughtrim, in another attempt to close Ginkel's road into Galway, Sansfield was in command of the cavalry under the French General. Here, on July 12, 1691, the Irish performed prodigies of valor in repulsing successive attempts by King William's forces.

The Irish were steadily gaining when St. Ruth was killed as he was about to achieve a great victory with a cavalry charge. Sansfield, who had been kept in ignorance of his superior's plans, was unable to check a fresh assault by Ginkel, and the infantry, fighting to the last, were surrounded by the entire English Army. Limerick now remained as the only important stronghold in Jacobite hands. In sole command at this much-tried town, Sansfield was confronted with forces of such inconceivable superiority that after a month's fighting Limerick was forced to surrender. During the operations since the battle of the Boyne, Limerick under Sansfield had proved its motto so unquestionably that William thought it best to sign the treaty of Limerick, which restored some of the religious liberties of which Ireland had been deprived.

The treaty was violated by the English almost as soon as it had been signed, but it established a precedent that exerted a powerful effect upon the destinies of Ireland under succeeding reigns.

WHERE DID YOU GET

THAT WORD?

128.—BARBARIAN.

The Russians, and other Slavic neighbors of the Teutonic race, use the word "Niemetz" to designate a German. "Niemetz" means literally a "Dumb Man." The Russians called the Germans "Niemetz" (plural of "Niemetz") because they could not understand their language.

A similar process of primitive reasoning probably underlies our use of the words "Barbarian" or "Barbarous." The ancient Greeks applied the designation "Barbaros" to foreigners whose language they could not understand and whose talk sounded to them like a repetition of the syllable "Bar-bar-bar" (something like our imported "bla-bla").

Thus it is true that, throughout history, difference of language has acted as a mighty barrier to an understanding between nations and races.

From the Wise

A woman's heart is just like a lithographer's stone; what is once written upon it can not be rubbed out.—Thackeray.

The only secret that has been kept is—well, that's a secret.—E. P. Day.

I have nothing—I owe much—the rest I leave to the world.

—Rabelais.

Pain addeth zest unto pleasure, and teacheth the luxury of health.

—Tupper.

Knowledge, when wisdom is too weak to guide her, is like a headstrong horse that throws the rider.

—Quarles.

There are only two ways of rising in the world, either by one's own industry or by the weakness of others.—La Bruyere.